



TEXAS TIDBITS

TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC

Edition II, Volume VIII
March - April 2020

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Membership

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Upcoming Events

STATE:

- **04/04/20** MEETING, 1 pm
VFW Post 2772, Sherman, TX
- **09/11-09/13/20** State Rally

ARLINGTON:

- **3rd Sunday at 12 noon**
VFW Post 6111
1200 W Harris Street
Arlington 76018
- **03/12-03/15/20** [Be Happy Chili Cookoff](#)
- **03/28/20** [Bikers Ball](#)
- **04/18/20** [Bluebonnet Run](#)

DENTON:

- **4th Sunday at 2:00 pm**
Mr. Porky's
8430 W University Drive
Denton 76207

LAKE CITIES:

- **2nd Sunday at 1:00 pm**
VFW Post 10460
501 Thompson Drive
Lake Dallas 75065

TEXOMA:

- **3rd Sunday at 1:00 pm**
American Legion Post 62
419 Crawford Street
Denison 75020
- **02/29/20** [Chili Cookoff](#)
- **03/15/20** [Pancake & Poker Benefit for Tony Garcia](#)
- **05/15-05/17/20** [Old Fashion Rally](#)

current topics >>>

2020 STATE OFFICER OPENINGS

The following State positions will be open for nominations, July - September 2020:

- Assistant Coordinator (Executive Office)
- Treasurer (Executive Office)
- Membership (Administrative Office)
- Newsletter (Administrative Office)

For more detailed information regarding the duties of these offices see pages 12-15 of the [Texas Abate Confederation Bylaws](#)

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RIDERS NEEDED!

May 7, 2020 – Round Rock, TX

Show your support for riders who died on Texas roadways.

Join us to launch the 2020 *Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles* safety campaign.



WHO: Texas motorcycle clubs and riders

WHAT: Press conference to launch the statewide *Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles* safety campaign

WHEN: Thursday, May 7, 2020
• 12:00 p.m. Arrival by motorcyclists
• 12:30 p.m. Setup and press photos
• 1:00 p.m. Press conference

WHERE: Dell Diamond
3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, TX 78665

WHY: To show solidarity for riders who lost their lives in 2019 and to raise motorists' awareness of the importance of looking twice for motorcycles

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Register your group by April 16, 2020.

To register, email Lauren Karasek at ikarasek@sherrymatthews.com.

Be safe and be sure to wear your safety gear.

#EndTheStreakTX

Share the Road.



"BE HAPPY" 21ST Annual Wing & Chili Cook-Off

March 13th & 14th 2020

Loyd Park, Joe Pool Lake, Loop A

Park entry \$10 per Car or Annual Pass required

For more information email: behappychili@gmail.com



Contact your Chapter Rep before April 4th and let them know you are interested in this event. Chapter Reps to bring list of interested parties to the State Meeting in April



Legislative Report Skee Dodson, State Legislative Officer, Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.

Spring is just around the corner. Hopefully, everyone is having a good year so far. 2020 marks that time of our Texas legislative cycle when we should begin focusing on the upcoming Texas 87th legislative session - next January. We have a lot of work to accomplish in only a few short months! At the last ABATE meeting we discussed how important it is for each of us, right now, to contact our representatives. We need appointments with our reps – sometime in the very near future. Although they are not currently in session, setting up a meeting in their hometown may be easier than you think. With a few days notice we can have a small group of freedom fighters attend most any meeting, “any time”, to discuss common-sense legislation!

Malfunctioning red lights, lane sharing, definition of a motorcycle, motorcycle safety funds, etc. (note: Rep. Bill Zedler (D-96), sponsor of our red light bill for the last couple of sessions, will be retiring after this year). Most of us have different representatives, as we live in different districts; understand that most Reps will only talk with constituents from their district, and we need YOU (their constituent) to set the appointment. Let your Congressperson know that other enthusiasts will probably accompany you. You can even cc me (not bcc) in your email, and let them know that you are working with (a member of) Texas ABATE. My email: Skee.Dodson@texasabate.com

Find out who your House Representative is here: <https://www.house.texas.gov/members/find-your-representative/>

2020 also marks the beginning of the end for our (US) 116th legislative session. 2019 was the 1st Session of the 116th Congress, and 2020 is the 2nd Session of the 116th Congress. Let’s make sure that we are taking action on all of the current federal motorcycle bills – because, in a few months it will be too late! Presently, we have a bipartisan house resolution; **H.Res. 255** - “Promoting awareness of motorcycle profiling and encouraging collaboration and communication...” which addresses motorcycle profiling in every State. This resolution, at the time of this writing, has over 130 co-sponsors - and needs some collaboration! Three Representatives are from Texas (Cuellar, Brady, and Burgess). Other federal bills include: **HR1024** (revise E-15 labeling requirements); **HR2540** (to alleviate the ethanol blend wall); **HR5234** (to establish a Motorcycle Advisory Council); **HR5434** (Recognizing the Protection of Motor Sports); **S.2602** (Senate version of “Recognizing the Protection of Motor Sports”); and **S.3249** (Senate version of establishing a Motorcycle Advisory Council). **The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF)** makes it super simple to take action on most of these bills - with a link on the website: <https://mrf.org/federal-legislative-issues/>. Let’s do this – don’t let the 116th session end without taking action!

And speaking of the MRF, they are presently busy planning the **12th Annual Michael “Boz” Kerr Bikers Inside the Beltway**, the ONLY National Motorcycle Lobby Day held in our nation’s Capitol. This event will be held on May 18th & 19th, 2020 (Monday & Tuesday), and we need more Freedom Fighters from Texas to make plans to attend - and get registered soon. Texas has attended this event for the past four years – let’s make 2020 the best year yet! If you are not yet an MRF member, you can join online at <https://mrf.org/join-the-mrf/>.

Remember, our rights come with responsibilities! Ride safe, ride free. *Skeedaddy*

Visibility is Key Nick Taddonio, Assistant Coordinator, Arlington Chapter

The most important thing for an organization, like ours, to succeed, is a large constituency. Active, informed, and motivated members. Not an easy ask, you say? There are proven ways to achieve it. They have been around, and practiced effectively, for quite some time. And some of it is easier than one may think.

Being visible is the first and most important step to success. Face it, the key is not being some “Secret Squirrel Society.” It can be as easy as educating yourself about our organization, it’s objectives, and how to present it. Another good way to be visible is as simple as wearing a Chapter or State shirt. Even better, go somewhere with others and have everyone wear Abate shirts. Swarm. Yet another way, monitor the bike events and activities in your area. Heck, some of you might be going to the swap meet, drags or rallies anyway. If so, gather flyers and other items to distribute, maybe even products to sell. Remember giveaways. Don’t sit behind the booth. Walk around and share your information. You’ll find it usually sparks up a conversation. Meet people from other groups, always make yourself known to any businesses there. Contact is everything.

We, here in Arlington, did this in February. We recently decided to buy pocket constitutions to give away. We marked them with a sticker saying “Compliments of Arlington ABATE” and gave away a little more than seventy. So many businesses and groups are aware and interested in our activities. We had fabulous discussions, also some prospective members. Best \$40 our Chapter has spent in a while. Many, as you know, have never seen one, let alone read or used one as reference. What a conversation starter! Put a face to us as well as access to our website and meetings as well.

Given these pointers, you and your local group could be successful and grow. So much for “Secret Squirrels”!



LAW TIGERS
MOTORCYCLE LAWYERS

Motorcycle Accident?
Click Here.

[Dallas Motorcycle Lawyers - Law Tigers](#)

Law Tigers is a national association of independent law firms in various states that represent motorcycle riders. This is a paid advertisement for a network (national association) of independent law firms in various states who are members of the American Association of Motorcycle Injury Lawyers.

MEMBERSHIP

2020 NEW ABATE MEMBERS

Total New Members by Chapter & Independents

CHAPTER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
ARLINGTON	0	0
DENTON	1	0
LAKE CITIES	3	3
TEXOMA	2	0
INDEPENDENTS	1	0

INDEPENDENT CORNER

Okay, boys & girls, due to the retirement of our Independent Rep, it is now my duty to communicate with the Independent Members. I am not exactly sure of the best way to do this. I have been a member of Texas Abate for 30 years & have held many positions, none of which have held this responsibility. One thing I always push for is COMMUNICATION.

Texas is such a large state that it makes it difficult to stay in touch with everyone. So, here is my contact information:

Email: dviles85@gmail.com

Phone: (903)624-1938

Snail Mail: P.O. Box 440, Denison, TX 75021

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Like I said, I am new to this job, but I will do it to the best of my ability. Thank you for your patience & understanding.

Be safe & ride free! Dino Viles, Asst. State Coordinator

ARLINGTON
ABATE
EST. 1957

BIKER'S BALL

28th March 2020
At 7PM

(817) 688-5120

Motorcycle Riders Foundation
12TH ANNUAL MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR

Bikers Inside the Beltway
NATIONAL MOTORCYCLISTS LOBBY DAY

May 19, 2020

Join fellow riders from across the country to help educate lawmakers on the issues that impact your right to ride!

Pre-event briefing May 18, 2020
Event May 19, 2020

Governor House Inn, 6650 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 703-532-8900, room rate \$89 (cut-off date April 27)
Clarion Hotel, 6633 Falls Church, Arlington, VA 703-532-9000, room rate \$125 (cut-off date April 27)

Pre-register at www.mrf.org (by April 27)

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation
www.mrf.org | 202-546-0983

NEW SHIRTS!

I Lobbied Congress for Bikers' Rights (Congressional endorsement)

Short Sleeve and Long Sleeve available

Pre-register and order your shirt TODAY and it'll be available when you get to Washington! (Multi-sizes available) Short Sleeve \$20.00, Long Sleeve \$25.00



Tony Garcia

Pancake Breakfast & Poker Run Benefit

Sunday March 15, 2020
Sherman Elks Lodge #2280
1713 E FM 1417, Sherman Texas

Poker Run Registration and Breakfast start at 10:30 am

Breakfast \$5 a plate
Poker Run \$10 a hand



KSU up at 11:45 am

LAST Bike in to The Eagles Lodge

211 W Main Denison Texas by 2:30 pm

BBQ Dinner \$10 a plate

LIVE MUSIC

Live Auction

50/50 drawings



ALL Vehicles welcome

for more details or to make an auction or bake sale donation please contact Kim at 903-814-6225

*final*thoughts...

Do you know what is going on in your community? How do you find out? Volunteer. Talk to leaders in your community. What are the “hot” topics of conversation? Do your leaders roll up their sleeves and get in the trenches? Or do they like their “suit and tie” along with their corner office? Ask questions! Give them your input. Let them know where you stand on certain agendas. Will they support what you believe is important? They represent YOU! **Find out who they are...**

<https://fyi.capitol.texas.gov/Home.aspx>



Contact us at news@texasabate.com

www.texasabate.com

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DID YOU KNOW:

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www.texasabate.com/chapters



Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.
900 Fish Creek Drive
Arlington, TX 76018

Texas Abate Confederation, Inc. is a not-for-profit, motorcycle rights organization. An alliance dedicated to the protection of the individual rights of motorcyclists through political change and awareness, charitable works, public education and the promotion of motorcycling.

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

In Hope of Promoting a Better Relationship with the Public for Motorcycle Awareness.